

In the Claims:

1. (Twice Amended) An interface adapter, comprising:

a housing that defines an interior region of the adaptor and an exterior region, the housing having an entrance face;

a plurality of electrical conductors extending into the interior region of the adaptor through the entrance face of the housing, the electrical conductors coupled to a signal splitter;

a plug connector coupled to a first subset of the electrical conductors, the plug connector located in the exterior region; and

a receptacle connector coupled to a second subset of the electrical conductors, the receptacle connector being accessible from the exterior region to receive a compatible plug connector.

2. (Once Amended) The adapter of claim 1, further comprising an external connection to a third subset of the electrical conductors.

9. (Twice Amended) A method for installing a subscriber line, comprising:

providing an interface adapter, comprising:

a housing that defines an interior region of the adapter and an exterior region, the housing having an entrance face;

a plurality of electrical conductors extending into the interior region of the adaptor through the entrance face of the housing, the electrical conductors coupled to a signal splitter;

a first plug connector coupled to a first subset of the electrical conductors, the first plug connector located in the exterior region;

a first receptacle connector coupled to a second subset of the electrical conductors, the first receptacle connector being accessible from the exterior region; and

B3 an external connection to a third subset of the electrical conductors;

inserting the first plug connector into a compatible receptacle connector;

inserting a compatible plug connector into the first receptacle connector; and

coupling the subscriber line to the external connection.

10. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

B4 15. (Once Amended) The adaptor of claim 1, wherein the external connection comprises lugs.

16. (Cancelled)

C 17. (Newly Added) The interface adapter of Claim 1, wherein the plug connector and the receptacle connector are selected to be compatible with an in-line insertion of the interface adapter into a network.

35 18. (Newly Added) The interface adapter of Claim 2, wherein the first set of electrical conductors connect to a network, the second set of electrical conductors connect to a first set of signal conductors driven by the signal splitter and the third set of electrical conductors connect to a second set of signal conductors driven by the signal splitter.

19. (Newly Added) The interface adapter of Claim 2, wherein the signal splitter is an